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# IRISES

OF · THE · BETTER · KIND



*The Simpson Iris Gardens*

H. P. SIMPSON : Grower

RFD No 1, : ROSSLYN : VA.



MANY OF THE FINEST BEARDED  
IRISES, OF BOTH THE NEWER  
AND OLDER VARIETIES, ARE OF-  
FERED WITHIN THESE PAGES TO  
GARDEN MAKERS WHEREVER  
THE LOVE OF GARDENS EXISTS,  
AND IN CONFIDENCE THAT  
THESE MOST EASILY GROWN OF  
ALL BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS WILL  
SUCCEED WITH YOU AS THEY  
HAVE WITH ME



The Simpson Iris Gardens are located at Livingstone Heights, almost directly on the well-known Lee Highway; this is just three-and-a-half miles out from Washington, D. C. Visitors are welcome at any time during the blooming season.

Phone (from Washington): Clarendon 188-W-2.

## JUST IRIS TALK

The season of 1925 has passed into history and I can not remember one that was so trying from an Iris standpoint. Many varieties were extremely sparing with their blooms, and many blooms were abnormally small and even a few were "off color." This seems to have been almost the universal experience east of the Mississippi; North, late freezes and flooding rains; in the Central States, frosts and the drouth and finally a hot wave; South, drouth and extremely high temperatures. Any spring-blooming plant could not help but suffer, and all around me peonies were practically a failure. However, in spite of Nature's being largely against us, Mr. Adams, on a page further on, tells you of the unusual amount of bloom in my nursery rows that he saw, as compared with gardens near and around, and many a visit did I make to these rows, whenever a little spell of partial leisure permitted, feasting on the beauty that was spread out before me.

The Iris is coming more and more into its own; its popularity is increasing perhaps faster than that of any other flower; and you can be called one of the blessed when you yield to its magic spell, for it leads, as Mr. Farr has put it, into a wonderland of delight. Its delicate colors and richest of hues, its grace of shape, its actual glories when in a mass planting, are beyond comparison; no wonder that it develops enthusiasm in its followers!

But among the several hundred varieties what shall we choose for our own gardens? Beauty is sometimes told by the price asked and sometimes it is not; as an example, take *Ballerine*, *Ambassadeur*, *Mother of Pearl*, *Edouard Michel*, *Madam Gaudichau*—these are fully worth the prices as listed and asked by some growers, while a good many others priced at from five to fifty dollars are not worth these figures to the average gardener—they may be to the commercial grower, but not to you! I have in mind two varieties, one usually selling for \$1.50; the other for thirty-five cents, and for real beauty the latter is worth much more than the other. Furthermore, I would hardly want the \$1.50 one at any price, and my present intention is never to list it.

Then again, beauty is not always bound up with size and height; most of us want the large and tall ones to be in the majority in our gardens, but there are many among the most desirable Irises that are of medium size and height—there are many of these that every one should

have; and the dwarfs, as well, are not to be neglected where very early blooms and edging plants are wanted. So, in every garden there should be some of these different types.

What are the best ones? We all have our preferences, but it is good for us to see what others like; and should many agree on certain varieties, this becomes very reliable evidence that these certain ones are worth owning.

To begin with, Mr. Gersdorff, he of gladiolus fame, as well as being an Iris grower, lists these as among the best, regardless of price: Dusk, Bruno, Arlington, Asia, Ambassadeur, L. A. Williamson, Mad. Gaudichau, Prospero, Shekinah, Sophronia, Morning Splendor, etc., etc.

Mr. Bliss, the great English breeder, likes these as being the best of the older kinds: Aurea, Flavescens, Innocenza, Jacquesiana, Mad. Chereau, Perfection, Pallida Dalmatica, etc., while of the newer kinds, he prefers Alcazar, Archeveque, Iris King, Lady Foster, Monsignor, Rhein Nixe, and others; of the newest he presents Ambassadeur, Asia, Crusader, Ed. Michel, Lord of June, Magnifica, Prospero, and others.

Then Mrs. Wright of Nashville, well known among Iris lovers, says that she prefers Princess Beatrice, Alcazar, Isoline, Flavescens, Lohengrin, Iris King, Celeste, Jean d'Arc, etc., for the lower priced ones; and Lord of June, B. Y. Morrison Ed. Michel, Arlington, Prospero, Delicatissima, Asia, Ballerine, Dominion, Kashmir White, Melrose, Ambassadeur, Titan, Shekinah, Sunset, Moonlight, Dream, etc., for the higher priced ones.

Mr. Wayman, of Long Island likes best of all, Ambassadeur, Ballerine, Mad. Gaudichau, Shekinah, Dream, L. A. Williamson, Anna Farr, Ma Mie, Asia, Parisiana, Alcazar, Mother of Pearl, Magnifica, Fairy, Kashmir White, Seminole, etc.

Dr. Merritt, of Washington, D. C., and Chevy Chase, Md., prefers among the low to moderate priced ones: Iris King, Rhein Nixe, Fairy, Princess Beatrice, Caterina, Pauline, Parc Neuilly, Princess Vic. Louise, Juniata, Isoline, Jacquesiana, Ma Mie, Her Majesty, Alcazar, Anne Leslie, Albert Victor, Quaker Lady, B. Y. Morrison, Afterglow, etc. While among the best, regardless of price, are Mad. Gaudichau, L. A. Williamson, Arlington, Melrose, Princess Beatrice, Crusader, Seminole, Morning Splendor, Asia, Prospero, Hermione, Fairy, Ambassadeur, Caterina, Rhein Nixe, Mother of Pearl, Alcazar, etc., etc.

Mr. Hubbard, of Indiana, likes Dominion, Mad. Gaudichau, Lord of June, Mother of Pearl, Magnifica, Dream, Sherbert, Ambassadeur, Ballerine, Princess Beatrice, Arch-

eveque, Asia, Alcazar, Oriflamme, Mlle. Schwartz, and many others.

Dr. Reed of the Brooklyn Botanic Gardens, gives the names of twelve varieties admirable for growing in an ordinary garden, viz: Florentina, Kochi, Amas, Mrs. H. Darwin, Albert Victor, White Knight, Prosper Laugier, Rhein Nixe, Iris King, Loreley, Mad. Chereau, Mrs. Allan Gray; to which he also added Oriflamme, Isoline, Jacquesiana, Chester Hunt, and Alcazar, and concludes by saying, "there are so many lovely ones!"

As a summary of the above, the varieties mentioned and preferred by these experienced garden lovers, are worthy of a trial by all of us, even though many of them are of the moderately expensive kinds. I agree with most of the preferences they have expressed. But perhaps you will decide that nearly all of your planting must be of the low-priced ones, and if this be so you can not go astray should you select Innocenza, Fairy, Rhein Nixe, Ma Mie, Parisiana, Windham, Her Majesty, Archeveque, Monsignor, Parc Neuilly, Kochi, Princess Beatrice, Albert Victor, Caterina, Lohengrin, Oriflamme, Alcazar, Arnols, Quaker Lady, Flavescens, Aurea, Iris King, Jacquesiana and Minnehaha; but there are other good ones too!



Please note that I ship in the spring as well as in the summer and fall; see the detailed statement on page 20 as to the exact dates. Also note that the Simpson-size roots are neither "thumb-nailers" nor "nubbins."

You will find that the catalog is different from almost any that you have ever seen in that the effort is made not to exaggerate or over-rate the different varieties; and, furthermore, I am giving you the quoted opinions of many Iris gardeners and judges rather than have you depend upon mine only; these opinions and comments are quoted exactly from the black-and-white statements of others, and I think you will find them both interesting and valuable guides.



## CLASSIFICATION OF VARIETIES

Varieties are listed and classified according to their main color scheme, and though this is difficult at times, it is believed to be much better than the old and now confusing classification into *neglecta*, *amoena*, *variegata*, etc., groups which nowadays tell you nothing in many cases, of the dominating color of the variety. "S" means "Standards," or upright petals; "F" means "Falls," or the drooping petals.

For your convenience however, if you have become accustomed to the old classification, it is briefly given and explained below:

**Amoena** ("pleasing")—the standards are mostly white with the falls usually of a blue or violet shade.

**Germanica**—of early flowering habits and shades of blue to purple with falls of darker shades.

**Neglecta** ("neglected")—standards range from lavender to purple with falls of darker shades.

**Pallida** ("pallid")—light and dark shades of blue, lavender and purple with numerous approaches to pink and red; generally tall or fairly tall growth.

**Plicata** ("pleated")—Standards and falls usually have a colored frill-like margin on a white ground.

**Squalens** ("daubed")—standards of clouded shades of fawn, copper or bronze, with darker falls of purple or brown-crimson shades.

**Variegata** ("variegated")—standards of various shades of yellow, with brownish falls.

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## NAMES OF INTRODUCERS

The American introducers or hybridists named after the varieties are Farr, Morrison, Miss Sturtevant, Kennicott, Williamson, Kohankie, Fryer and Simpson; the English are Bliss, Foster, Yeld, Ware, Parker, Barr, and Perry; the French are Lemon, Cayeux, Jacques, Verdier, Vilmorin, Millet and Denis; the German are Goos & Koeneman (G. & K.).

# THE VARIETIES

## *White or White Effects*

**ALBICANS**—The old-fashioned early white. A large bloom of fine shape. Fragrant. Shy bloomer, however, and more than one root should be planted if you wish a bloom or blooms the first season. This is believed to be an Arabian plant, but there is still some uncertainty as to its origin. 16-20 inches.....**20c**

**ANNA FARR** (Farr, 1913)—S. delicately feathered with pale blue; F. pure white with a touch of blue at the base. A white effect from a distance. An uncertain grower and sparse bloomer in some localities, but a beautiful bloom. One of the finest in its class, 36 inches.....**90c**

**FAIRY** (Kennicott, 1905)—White, delicately bordered and suffused pale blue. A very pretty bloom. Stems 36 inches tall and slightly bending, which is its only fault; not new and not as well known as it deserves to be.....**25c**

"Its standards and falls resemble sunkissed snow outlined by the faint azure of the sky."

**FENELLA** (Morrison, 1921)—A good, pure sturdy white of vigorous growth on 18-24 inch stems; "not tall, but so floriferous, the flowers so well carried and proportioned that I think it will prove the most effective white for garden massing," says Mr. Sturtevant, Secretary of the A. I. S. Arched standards and flaring falls.....**50c**

"A fine white that I would rate 85 or over," says one authority.

**INNOCENZA** (Lemon, about 1854)—S. and F. ivory-white with a crest of rich gold. Not large, but a good grower and a delicate, charming iris. Said by one authority that "in masses it seems to be our greatest white variety. One of our latest bloomers, 26 inches.....**25c**

**KASHMIR WHITE** (Foster, 1913)—A most beautiful white hybrid that we owe to Sir Michael Foster. Flowers of stout texture and perfect shape on 36-40 inch stems. The finest white within reach of the average pocketbook, and a fine, tall white is today the scarcest thing in irises; Anna Farr is a tall, near-white and LaNeige is a dwarf near-white. Somewhat slow to get established and should have perfect drainage as well as plenty of lime in the soil. Roots somewhat small.....**\$1.25**

"Kashmir White is my tallest and best white, and is thrifty here (in Michigan).

"Kashmir White, Fairy, Anna Farr, Princess Beatrice, and Aurea are my favorites.

"The grandest white for our locality (California); the past season it was the one variety enjoyed above all others.

**LA NIEGE** (Verdier, 1912)—A warm near-white of French origin; very pretty, and of medium size and height; horizontal falls and of good substance, 16-18 inches....**60c**

**MRS. H. DARWIN** (Foster, 1893)—S. white; F. white slightly marked with violet. A pretty little flower, and a very profuse bloomer. 16-20 inches.....**20c**

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### *White Standards and Darker Falls*

**ANNE LESLIE** (Sturtevant, 1918)—S. white with the finest flush of rose; F. rich carmine. Said to be richer than the similar French variety 'Dalila.' Rich color effect, and a good grower, 24 inches.....**60c**

**RHEIN NIXE** (G. & K., 1910)—S. pure white; F. raspberry purple, edged white. Vigorous grower and dependable bloomer. Tall and moderately large flower. One of the indispensable varieties that should be in every garden. 30-34 inches.....**30c**

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### *Frilled and Dotted Effects*

**CAMELOT** (Bliss, 1918)—S. and F. creamy white edged with pale violet. About the tallest of the plicatas and a free bloomer, 42-48 inches.....**50c**

**MA MIE** (Cayeux, about 1906)—S. white, frilled violet; F. white, penciled and margined violet. A lovely bloom. Called by some an improved Madam Chereau, but it is a much larger flower, 27-30 inches.....**35c**

**MADAM CHEREAU** (Lemon, 1844)—S. and F. white with distinct and rather heavy frilling of blue-lavender. The old standard frilled variety and of good blooming habit. A pretty flower and medium-size bloom. Tall. 36 inches...**20c**

**PARISIANA** (Vilmorin, 1911)—S. white, heavily dotted lilac-purple; F. white, frilled at edge with lilac. A flower of

unusual coloring and worthy of a place in any collection. Odd and yet pleasing. 27-30 inches .....35c

**VICTORINE** (Lemon, 1840)—S. white, mottled blue; F. violet blue, mottled white. Medium-size flower and as dainty and pretty as an orchid. 27 inches.....25c  
“In form and coloring this appeals to my sense of beauty strongly.”

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## *P i n k*

**EDOUARD MICHEL** (Verdier, 1904)—Self-colored large flower of a deep wine-red color, the deepest of all the pinks. A grand iris and of imposing effect. Tall stems and blooms finely held, 30-36 inches.....75c

“Is admired above all others in my garden.

“Is a superb Iris and after certain preliminary difficulties are surmounted, it blends inexplicably well in many striking combinations.

“Mr. W’s. Ed. Michel was simply gorgeous—it stood above everything in his garden.

**HER MAJESTY** (Perry, 1903)—S. pretty shade of rose-pink; F. darker with considerable veining. An attractive variety and one that I like. 20-24 inches.....25c

**MRS. ALLAN GRAY** (Foster, 1909)—S. and F. a delicate, pale lavender or orchid-pink of a pleasing appearance. Dainty and pretty. 24 inches.....25c

**PAULINE** (Farr, 1913)—S. and F. unusually large rich pansy-violet, or say, deep pink; rich orange beard. Approaches Edouard Michel in its coloring, but does not equal it. One of the largest of the Farr hybrids, 36 inches....35c

**WINDHAM** (Farr, 1909)—S. soft lavender-pink; F. veined with darker shades. Not large, in spite of what some catalogs are telling you, but a very pretty, delicate pink. 24-26 inches.....35c

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## *Blue or Purple*

**AMAS** (wild; Asia Minor)—S. deep violet; F. sky-blue; one of the older varieties that is still liked. Fairly large bloom. Early bloomer. 24-27 inches.....20c

**ARCHEVEQUE** (Vilmorin, 1911)—S. purple-violet; F. rich, deep velvety purple. A stunning color and excelled by none of its color in my gardens. Good grower and fine bloomer. One of the richest color effects, 24-28 inches **30c**

**BALLERINE** (Vilmorin, 1920)—S. light blue-violet, broad and rounded; F. a little deeper shade. Large flower on a tall stem; said to be among the very best of the French varieties, and I regard it as one of the world's finest varieties. 3-4 feet.....**\$1.25**

"I consider Ballerine nearly perfect in form.

**BARONET** (Sturtevant, 1920)—S. true chicory blue, with falls somewhat deeper in tone. Tall and medium-sized bloom. Color, tone and shading usually good.....**60c**

"It is one of the most effective garden Irises that I have ever seen. Close at hand it is not specially remarkable, but at a distance of thirty to fifty feet it is scarcely surpassed for garden effects. Its growth is strong and vigorous; the flower stands out finely and the blending and shading of color at the proper distance is as fine as any Iris."—F. B. Mead.

**KOCHI** (wild; Italy)—S. and F. rich claret-purple. Early and handsome. Its fault is that its blooms are likely to come and go very quickly; it is a rich color and blooms profusely, but is not tall. 14-16 inches.....**25c**

**MME. GAUDICHAU** (Millet, 1914)—A rich, black-violet or black-purple bloom of large size and good substance; can hardly be called velvety in color, however. Tall and strong and rather early. 38-40 inches.....**\$1.50**

"Year after year it has been unequaled. It has vigor, beauty of form and a richness and depth of dark blue coloring which makes it a wondrously beautiful flower.

"More superb than ever. A vase of six splendid spikes stood out in relief from the entire bewildering medley.

**MONSIGNOR** (Vilmorin, 1907)—S. rich violet; F. velvety purple-crimson, heavily veined. Fine coloring and good shape, though not a large flower. A late bloomer and of unusual value on this account. 22-28 inches.....**35c**

"A stately, massive and inspiring variety."

**MRS. FRYER** (Fryer, 1917)—S. white, shaded heliotrope; F. purple-crimson bordered, with a lighter shade, and veins of white. Said to be one of the best of the Fryer introductions, 32 inches.....**35c**

**OTHELLO** (Lemon, about 1848)—S. rich blue; F. deep purple. One of the best of the older varieties. Rather small bloom, but a first-rate garden iris. Included by one grower in his list of the best purples. 25-30 inches.....**20c**

**PARC NUILLY** (Verdier, 1910)—Both standards and falls are a rich purple self, approaching plum in color. Medium to large blooms, and fine in masses; one of my indispensable varieties. 21-24 inches.....30c

**PERFECTION** (Barr, about 1880)—S. light blue; F. dark violet-black. Handsome flower, but not quite as large as I would like to see it, considering its bold contrasts. Has more blossoms on the stalk than almost any other variety, and still compares favorably with many of the novelties. It always attracts attention. 28-32 inches.....25c

**SWATARA** (Farr, 1918)—S. lobelia-blue with a warm yellowish glow; F. bright violet and a conspicuous beard. Cannot be said to be a large flower, though some catalogs tell you it is, but it is a very pretty bloom with a warm, rich effect. I regard it as one of the prettiest of the Farr hybrids. 36 inches.....35c

**TAMERLANE** (Vilmorin, 1904)—Deep violet-purple falls with paler standards. Easy, rapid grower and a large, handsome flower. One grower has said that this should have been called "Iris King." Very effective in masses. 28-34 inches .....30c

**TROJANA** (wild; Asia Minor)—S. pale blue; F. deep violet-purple. Large flower. Not a very profuse bloomer, however, and even the largest single rhizome may fail to flower the first year. Late bloomer and tall stalk. 32-36 inches .....20c and 30c

One grower calls this a giant flower with rich falls; another says that it is of coarse texture and rather dull falls; the latter is nearer correct in my opinion.

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### *Lilac and Violet or Pink-Violet*

**ALBERT VICTOR** (Barr, 1885)—S. soft blue; F. delicate, lovely lavender. Fine large blooms. Similar in coloring to P. Dalmatica, but taller and more erect. Good grower and bloomer. 36-42 inches.....25c

**BASHI-BAZOUK** (Sturtevant, 1919)—S. light lavender-violet; F. deepening to mauve. A flower of large size with long drooping falls, and of an unusual effect. A very satisfactory bloomer and grower, 30-36 inches.....60c

**CATERINA** (Foster, 1909)—Lavender-blue and lilac; almost the same coloring as P. Dalmatica except with a little pink showing. A beautiful flower and a graceful stem.

Taller and larger than *P. Dalmatica*. Said to be a poor grower in very cold localities, but with me it is one of my best growers and with not a single fault to find in it. 40-45 inches. Price (according to size).....**30c and 40c**

"One of the most superb Irises that I have and this means something for I have over two hundred varieties.

"As Mr. W. grows it, it easily maintains a deserved position among the dozen best Irises I know of.

"Its fine color and smooth texture mark it as an aristocrat of the garden.

**CRUSADER** (Foster, 1913)—F. deep violet-blue with paler standards. The introducer claims this to be the finest of all blue irises. Splendid form; reported to be a slow grower by some, but it is not so with me. Mr. Wister (President of the A. I. S.) says the more he sees of this variety the better he likes it; he rates it 95 at least....**75c**

**DELICATISSIMA** (Millet, 1914)—Large flowers of fine form and good substance. A general soft lilac and rose effect with soft pink tones. A charming Iris. 3 feet..**\$1.00**

**LADY FOSTER** (Foster, 1913)—S. pale blue; F. light bluish violet. Flowers unusually large, smooth and stout textured. Splendid, bold bloom. Rather slow grower with me. Praised very highly by some, 36-42 inches.....**90c**

**LEWIS TROWBRIDGE** (Farr, 1913)—S. bright violet; F. blue-violet, shaded rose. Vigorous grower and fine bloom. One of the largest of the Farr hybrids. Somewhat like *P. Dalmatica* in color, but with more rose in it, 30-36 inches .....**30c**

**LEONIDAS** (Europe, 1901)—S. clear mauve; F. rosy mauve. Large and of good form; as compared with *P. Dalmatica* and *Albert Victor*, it is perhaps the most profuse bloomer of the three; tall, 30-32 inches.....**20c**

**LOHENGRIN** (G. & K., 1910)—Rich silvery lilac shaded deeper on the falls, of the tone of a *Cattleya* orchid. Fine, widely expanded flower. Close to being an extra fine bloom, says one grower. 30 inches.....**35c**

Undoubtedly the most desirable of all the pallidas, says another grower, which is rather strong language, but the variety has many admirers without a doubt.

**LORD OF JUNE** (Yeld, 1916)—S. lavender-blue; F. rich violet-blue. An exceedingly handsome iris of fine proportions. Said by some to be one of the finest irises in the world. Finely suited as a cut flower for the house; out doors the petals are so large that they "flop" a little in warm sunshine or high winds. Its color, form and size are elegant, however. 30-36 inches.....**90c**

**MAGNIFICA** (Vilmorin, 1920)—S. light violet-blue; F. deep reddish-violet. Exceedingly large and long blooms on a tall stem. Personally, I do not think it one of the finest irises, but some do. Its color is good and its size immense. 3-4 feet. One of the new French introductions.....\$1.50

**MANDELAY** (Sturtevant, 1918)—A pale violet self-colored variety not unlike Caterina, but a better grower in some localities. Fresh water-lily fragrant blooms. Large flower and tall stalk, 36-38 inches.....50c

**MLLE. SCHWARTZ** (Denis, 1916)—A large flower on a tall stalk, of the palest mauve or a soft lavender-blue, paler than P. Damatica. A lovely Iris and said to be one of the finest of M. Denis' seedlings. 40-48 inches.....\$1.50

**MOTHER OF PEARL** (Sturtevant, 1917; Kunderd 1921)—A beautiful pale bluish lavender color most aptly described by its name, and with the soft iridescent hues of mother of pearl. To me this is the most beautiful of all of Miss Sturtevant's productions and it is without a doubt one of the finest Irises in the world. A good grower, a large bloom and about 4 feet tall. This variety sold last year for amounts varying from four to ten dollars. Roots still a little small. Spring delivery, \$2.00. August and fall delivery .....\$1.50

**MYTH** (Sturtevant, 1918)—"A very large pallid lavender-violet flower, the segments unusually broad. S. open; F. widely flaring; most sumptuous in garden effect."—Introductor's description. 24 inches.....\$1.00

**NUEE D' ORAGE, OR STORM CLOUD** (Verdier, 1905)—S. slaty gray or heliotrope; F. bronze and purple. A soft pastel effect. Very large blooms and vigorous growth, 24-30 inches.....25c

**ORIFLAMME** (Vilmorin, 1914)—S. light-blue; F. rich violet-purple. Somewhat early and enormous, handsome blooms; one of the largest of irises. 22-26 inches.....50c

**PRINCESS BEATRICE** (Synonym Pallida Dalmatica; wild, from S. E. Europe)—S. light silvery lavender; F. clear and slightly deeper lavender. Large, fine blooms of perfect shape and admired by everyone. One of the older varieties not yet surpassed by any of the newer ones. I have the true variety, 30-34 inches. Prices, 30c, 40c, and 50c, according to size.

"One of the oldest Irises in existence and still absolutely unequalled.

"The true Princess Beatrice is easily the most nearly perfect of any Iris that I know of."



**QUEEN ALEXANDRIA** (Barr, about 1910)—S. fawn, shot with lilac; F. lilac reticulated bronze at base. Smooth, cool texture and a very attractive bloom. Sturdy growth and good-sized flower. 20-22 inches.....**30c**

**SINDJKHA** (Sturtevant, 1918)—Deep dull lavender, shading to dark buff and violet; subdued tints; form, size and habit exceptional. A rich bloom. See below what Mr. Bliss, the famous English hybridizer says of it, 36-42 inches .....**90c**

"The large flowers of very fine form and exceptional substance appear to me to be akin to the type to which Dominion and L. A. Williamson belong, tho the coloring is not so strong and bright. It has also the same sturdy stems and vigorous growth as these, and is free-flowering."

Another authority says "An established clump of this variety is irresistible."

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### *Blended and Bronze Shades*

**ALCAZAR** (Vilmorin, 1910)—S. light bluish-violet; F. deep purple with bronze-veined throat. Somewhat somber, but a rich, large, striking bloom. Thought by some to be one of the richest effects in my garden. Late. 30 inches. **40c**

"Unsurpassed as a garden clump.

"Among the more sombre blends it was as magnificent, or more so, than it had ever been.

"With its tall and widely branching habit, makes probably the finest specimen clump of any Iris. (A. J. Bliss.)

"Easily the most popular variety among the darker blends.

**AFTERGLOW** (Sturtevant, 1917)—Soft grayish lavender shading to a rich yellow through the center. Of loose pallida form and strong growth. Generally admired by all who see it, 32-36 inches.....**60c**

"Several of the Sturtevant seedlings in this garden ranked among the aristocrats: Sherbert, and the exquisitely-toned Afterglow."

**AMBASSADEUR** (Vilmorin, 1920)—Smoky bronze with dark velvety maroon falls. Considered the finest of Vilmorin's seedlings and an extremely rich bloom. Large size. 32-36 inches.....**\$1.25**

"If it were necessary to name the best Iris in the world today, I would decide upon this variety.

"I would not change Ambassadeur in any respect.

"Most impressive and a splendid grower.

"In a class by itself and most imposing in substance, form and color.

**ARNOLS** (Barr, 189 )—S. bronze with rosy tints; F. rich soft velvet. Handsome medium-sized blooms. Among the bronze types this is one of the most attractive. Almost as fine as Prosper Laugier and a faster grower. 24-26 inches .....20c

"An old variety and was very splendid this season—finer far than many a heralded new variety."

**ELDORADO** (Vilmorin, 1910)—S. fiery opalescent; F. old gold and burnt purple. A combination amazing and unusual in effect. Flower often comes small and with a weak stem, but during a recent season (one with more rain than usual) the stem was good and the flower large, though it does not approach the ideal shape. 25-28 inches.....35c

"Eldorado was in beautiful form, and, massed with the exquisitely blending Quaker Lady, made a stunning corner in the garden. Both of these varieties are favorites with me.

"Eldorado was again the one to maintain the longest season, Monsignor being next.

**ISOLINE** (Vilmorin, 1904)—S. pinkish lilac; F. old rose with a tinge of copper. A beautiful piece of coloring and hard to describe. There isn't a thing in the garden that excels it in sheer beauty of coloring. Large flowers, but a shy bloomer at times. Tall, 36 inches.....35c

"An indescribably beautiful thing. The stalk is magnificent and the buds just before unfolding are awe-inspiring.

"Among the finest pinkish Irises in existence.

"It resembles nothing but itself. There mingle in its tall uprights and broad falls all the pale shades of auburn, sepia and rose.

**IRIS KING** (G. & K., 1907)—S. rich yellow shaded fawn; F. rich maroon with yellow beard. Fine coloring and a handsome iris, but not large, even though some growers describe it as such. One of the indispensables that should be in every garden. About 26 inches.....35c

**JACQUESIANA** (Lemon, 1840)—S. bright copper-crimson; F. rich maroon. Among the best of the older varieties and still holds its own with Iris lovers. 30-36 inches....30c

"Is of striking beauty and stands well at the front of the old varieties.

"We prefer it to P. Laugier, but most visitors prefer the latter.

**L. A. WILLIAMSON** (Williamson, 1918)—S. soft campanula-violet; F. velvety royal-purple; brilliant golden beard. Massive in flower and growth. Said by some to be one of the finest in the world, 36-42 inches.....90c

"This is the best Iris seedling that has yet been raised in America. The flowers are very large, of the finest form and of great substance, surpassed only by Dominion. The coloring is rich, velvety and bright tho the crimson-purplish tone in the red-brown falls make it a little

harsh. It is exceptionally free-flowering. Few, if any, Irises can claim such all-round excellence." A. J. Bliss.

"These three Irises (L. A. Williamson, Alcazar, and Ballerine) were the monarchs of my garden the past season.

**PROSPER LAUGIER** (Verdier, 1914)—S. smoky-brown; F. rich wine-red. Handsome and one of the best of the bronze varieties. Not a large flower, however. 30 inches, **35c**

**PROSPERO** (Yeld, 1920)—S. pale lavender; F. velvety red-purple. Large blooms of good substance and a reliable grower. Tall, stiff, well-branched stems. Unusually fine iris, and ranks up among the best of the English introductions. 35-40 inches.....**\$1.25**

"These two (Asia and Prospero) possess so many good qualities of height, size, substance and color that they will always rank among the finest.

"Among the Vilmorin Irises, Magnifica, Ambassadeur, Alcazar, Isoline, . . . were so regally beautiful that they can not possibly pass unmentioned.

**QUAKER LADY** (Farr, 1909)—S. smoky lavender with yellow shadings; F. ageratum-blue and old gold. Odd and attractive. Not large but considered to be one of Farr's most attractive and popular seedlings. 30-33 inches.....**35c**

**SHERBERT** (Sturtevant, 1918)—S. drab and cinnamon and purple; F. dalilia-purple shaded lighted at edges. An odd blending of colors. Flexuous and tortuous stems which are a pronounced defect in this variety. Good grower and large blooms. This variety was priced last year at one and two dollars by some growers. 32-36 inches.....**50c**

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## Y e l l o w

**AUREA** (Jacques, 1834)—S. and F. rich chrome-yellow. Perhaps the finest yellow at a low price. Good sized, but not large blooms of fine form. 24 inches.....**25c**

"The best all-round yellow garden Iris; it seems to tone so well with many of the other varieties that it is very useful in quantities."

**DAWN** (Yeld, 1912)—Very pretty sulphur-yellow bloom, amber-veined at the throat. One of the newer English introductions. Attractive bloom, tho small. 28-30 inches. **35c**

**DARIUS** (Parker, 1873)—S. clear rich yellow; F. lilac-blue rimmed with white. Quite pretty and dainty, but not a large bloom. 18-22 inches.....**20c**

"This old variety has not yet been equalled in its class by any of the newer introductions. . . . Its standards are a clear, beautiful yellow

and the hazy lilac color of its falls seems to detach it from the earth and the rest of the plant, and give it that evanescent quality for which the Iris surpasses all other flowers."

**EMPIRE** (Sturtevant, 1918)—A warm deep yellow, taller than Aurea and deeper in color than Shekinah. A winner of several awards at Iris shows. Not a large bloom, however. 30 inches.....**50c**

**FLAVESCENS** (Europe, before 1830)—Both standards and falls are soft yellow; wonderfully delicate, and of good size and growth. One of the older yellows that still retains its hold on the iris public. 30-32 inches.....**20c**

**HELGE** (G. & K., 1908)—Both S. and F. lemon-yellow. One of the early or "intermediate" types, and of good size and form. 12-15 inches.....**20c**

**LORELEY** (G. & K., about 1909)—S. light yellow; F. ultramarine bordered with cream. Good grower and striking contrasts, 30 inches.....**25c**

"Loreley is a gem and the fastest multiplier on my place."

**MINNEHAHA** (Farr, 1913)—S. creamy white, shaded yellow; F. same, but heavily marked with maroon. Blooms of good size. One of Farr's hybrids that is more esteemed in Europe than most of his other introductions. Rather massive and distinct. Listed in the past at one dollar by most of the growers. 24 inches.....**35c**

**MRS. NEUBRONNER** (Ware, about 1898)—S. and F. very deep, rich yellow. Its color is good, but its height and size and shape are against it. I am listing it for there is no other yellow so deep and intense. 14-16 inches.....**20c**

**PRINCESS VICTORIA LOUISE** (G. & K., 1910)—S. soft clear yellow; F. rich plum, bordered cream. Gay and gaudy and good for lighting up dark spots in the garden. Of good size and growth and very floriferous. 24-30 inches .....**25c**

**SHEKINAH** (Sturtevant, 1918)—A pale lemon-yellow pallida, not large in size, but on a moderately tall stalk, and generally admired. One of the newest and best of the tall yellows. 30-34 inches.....**\$1.00**

**SHERWIN WRIGHT** (Kohankie, 1915)—S. and F. both a rich golden yellow, though rather small bloom. A good grower and bloomer. 2 feet.....**25c**

## THE SIMPSON SEEDLINGS

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**ARLINGTON** (1924)—S. Clear rosy lavender; F. bright velvety reddish violet, almost crimson in effect. It is a very large bloom and a thrifty grower. This seedling has been highly commented on and many have said that it is one of the prettiest flowers they have ever seen. 32-36 inches-----\$3.00

"Arlington is to be preferred to Lent A. as the latter changes color with the weather so quickly that it is hard to identify in another garden.—Michigan.

"Arlington was well-shown and much admired; I never saw anything bloom like it.—Tennessee.

"The general view of it is that it is an exceptionally fine, upstanding plant and a remarkably rich flower, holding its own amidst some of the richest of the new introductions.—Massachusetts.

"An established clump of Arlington made a fine effect as the flowers were large, the stems of good height, and the flowers a rich bi-color composition that is quite telling. I have been somewhat put to it to think up a proper companion to plant alongside this, in an effort to bring out and to emphasize the fine red-purple of its falls.—California.

"Your Arlington is better than L. A. W. in that it is taller, of better color and without the somberness of that variety. It is a thoroughly good Iris.—Alabama.

"Arlington is in all its glory; one of the rhizomes you sent has a wonderful bloom. I think it is as fine an Iris as I have ever had.—Tennessee.

**MELROSE** (1926)—Formerly known as seedling 4a. A large bi-color, both S. and F. being shades of lavender and purple; a thrifty grower and a profuse bloomer, blooming last season when dozens of other varieties failed to show either a single stalk or else entirely too few. It is true that it is of a type and in a class where there are already too many varieties, but this has stood all tests so well, and has been rated so highly by experts that this is my excuse for introducing it. In the soft light of a late after-

noon it becomes one of the prettiest blue-purples that I have seen. Rated at 90 by two of the most competent experts in the country, which places it up among the best. I am introducing it at a figure that any one can afford and I believe you will like it. Height 26 inches.....\$1.50

"Although but a single division planted late last August, it bloomed this season. The one flower stalk had five immense blooms—two of which withstood two days of intense heat (well over 90°) with a scorching wind blowing continuously. We liked the bloom, the color, the texture and shape, and its endurance under trying conditions. The color shows to especial advantage in the late afternoon. It certainly attracted attention in my garden where I grow some two hundred varieties. —B. B. H., Elgin, Ill.

"My little display consisted of Arlington, No. 4a, Princess Beatrice, Queen Caterina, Lord of June, Ambassadeur, and Iris King, with yellow Spanish Iris, yellow lemon lilies and Therese peonies. It was a dream and I had many compliments. Mr. C. says that 4a easily rates 90; it is a good Iris and I like it.—K. P. W., Nashville, Tenn.

**CALEBEE** (1915)—An Indian name, pronounced 'Ca-le-by.' An unusually rich plicata; S. lavender and white, with reddish-brown markings, particularly on the falls, giving the entire flower an attractive bronzy effect. Medium size bloom and somewhat narrow petals. A very pretty effect that attracted many who have seen it blooming. Good grower. 22-24 inches.....\$1.25



Of the seedlings mentioned in last year's catalog, as having been given Awards of Merit at the big Washington show of 1924, No. 3a, the largest bloom in the show, has proven to be such a poor grower that it will probably never be introduced; No. 49a, a deeply colored rich bloom, is still under trial, while No. 29a, a beautiful plicata, has not yet grown enough stock in sufficient quantity for it to be listed. Any seedling of my own must show good growing and blooming habits, or else it will not be listed and sold; I am positively committed to this and it will be adhered to as long as I am in the business of growing Irises.

The American Iris Society's bronze medal was awarded my general display of seedlings at Washington in 1924.

## FINE COLLECTIONS AT LOW PRICES

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For those beginning the fascinating culture of Irises, a collection of twelve varieties, all named, will be sent for \$2.50. The varieties will be **Ma Mie, Albert Victor, Tamerlane, Her Majesty, Lewis Trowbridge, Pauline, Innocenza, Rhein Nixe, Princess Vic. Louise, Parisiana, and Victorine.** This collection can be highly recommended to any one beginning their venture into the glories of Iris-land.

A somewhat more expensive one, comprising **Fenella, Archeveque, Myth, Alcazar, Quaker Lady, Minnehaha, Monsignor, Oriflamme, Isoline, Dawn, Parc Neuilly, and Windham,** will be sent for \$3.75, which is a dollar cheaper than if these varieties were bought separately.

Or, regardless of price, twelve of the very finest kinds comprising **Anna Farr, Princess Beatrice, Ballerine, Caterina, Ed. Michel, Crusader, Rhein Nixe, Mad. Gaudichau, L. A. Williamson, Prospero, Shekinah, and Melrose** will be sent for \$9.00 a saving of nearly two dollars, if they were bought separately. Most of these are among the aristocrats of the garden, but note that three of the low-priced ones, Rhein Nixe, Princess Beatrice and Caterina, were included, for even the best collection would be incomplete without these beautiful varieties.



## WHAT THEY THINK OF THE STOCK I SEND OUT

The extracts given here are from actual letters on file that have been received from appreciative customers:

¶ I have bought Iris before of a number of dealers and I am free to say that your's surpassed by a very great deal anything I have had.—L. H. F., Dist. of Col.

¶ I must write and tell you how well the plants you sent me last June have done—especially the ones considered by so many the hardest to grow: Kashmir White, Ed. Michell and Caterina—have all grown wonderfully well. Without exception they have surely shown how splendid must be the quality of the stock sent out.—T. P. H., Pennsylvania.

¶ My Iris package arrived and it seems to me that you have given me twice as many as I am paying for. I am putting them in today and shall await the season of blooming with great expectations.—M. S. G., Virginia.

¶ The Iris roots came today and are very fine.—F. E. D., Massachusetts.

¶ Your rhizomes were well supplied with root systems; one in particular had the largest mass of roots I have ever seen on a plant.—I. A. D., Dist. of Col.

¶ I wish to thank you for the very generous manner in which you filled my order—fine roots and an extraordinary conception of "single" roots.—E. T. H., Virginia.

¶ I was so very pleased with the roots that you sent me, that I am sending you another order.—G. R. P., Virginia.

¶ I bought Princess Beatrice from seven different growers and only yours pulled through the winter—the worst winter we ever had.—K. P. W., Tennessee.

¶ I don't think I have ever lost an Iris that came from you; they have always been good, strong roots.—E. C. S., Tennessee.



## TERMS OF SALE

Cash with order by either check or money order.

**Orders of less than one dollar are respectfully declined.**

Five per cent discount on all orders of \$10.00 or over; i. e., if your order is for \$10.00, send only \$9.50, and so on. This discount does not include the three Collections described on page 19.

Also, six roots of any one variety priced at one dollar or less, each, will be sold for the price of five roots; twelve will be sold for the price of ten.

Should the order be large or fairly large, say for \$20.00 or more, it may not be convenient to remit the full amount at once; in this case remit 50 per cent with your order, and the balance can be paid within one, two or three months. When the order is mailed please state explicitly just when the balance will be sent.

**Shipping Time:** My preference, and that of the great majority, is after the plants have bloomed, which with me is after June 10th. From this date until September 1st, is undoubtedly the best transplanting time; and to prove this, I do all my own transplanting then! However, I can accommodate those who wish the roots delivered in the spring if they will so direct me and they can be shipped, if you wish it done, about March 15th to May 1st. They will not be shipped during the blooming period, which as a rule is from May 1st to June 10th or 15th.

**Size of Roots:** They are mostly of the so-called "blooming size" (the rarer varieties will run somewhat smaller, however), though it has been found that about one-fourth of these will not bloom the first season after transplanting, due to some cause which no one can control. Different varieties give us different-sized rhizomes; for instance, Windham, Iris King, Aurea, Othello, etc., naturally produce small ones, while Caterina, Lewis Trowbridge, Arlington, Pauline, and others, produce the larger ones. However, when they are small, and if only one be ordered you will probably find two or a small clump in the package, instead of one!

Satisfaction is absolutely guaranteed to all reasonable purchasers. On receipt of an order, if unsatisfactory to you, return the roots promptly in good condition and the pur-

chase price will be as promptly remitted. I am not in the Iris business simply to make money out of it, and any other policy than this would utterly fail to be satisfactory to me. Be reasonable, though, please, and if you have never bought Iris before, do not expect the earth for the prices asked. I do not send out "nubbins," as some growers do, but still keep in mind what was said above, that some varieties naturally grow small rhizomes, while others grow large ones.

**A Word of Caution:** Go slow about ordering any of the very expensive American or foreign varieties, unless you have seen them blooming and hence know them;—I mean those costing five, ten and fifteen dollars or more. Many of them are absolutely not needed in anyone's garden, and many of them are not worth over one or two dollars each—much less five or ten!



## AN ELEGANT EFFECT!

*The beauty of even a few clumps can not be over-described, while that of many clumps, or a mass planting in full bloom is a glorious sight.*

*In order to get this clump effect quickly try the planting of six, eight or ten roots together of one variety in this spot and of another variety in that spot, and so on. There are many inexpensive kinds that can be used in this way.*



## A MEMORANDUM PAGE

Varieties that I must have :

The Simpson-size roots will not disappoint you—some others might, and some others undoubtedly would!

Dont plant deep—barely cover the rhizomes, but push the fibrous or feeding roots into the ground as far as you can.

## A MEMORANDUM PAGE

Varieties that I must have :

Of all the most beautiful flowers in the world, the bearded Irises are the most easily grown ones, and they are the least exacting as to soil and attention; with what wonderful blooms though, do they repay you for your care!

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On May the 23rd the American Horticultural Society took advantage of the kind offer of Mr. H. P. Simpson to visit his Iris Gardens near Rosslyn, Virginia. Automobiles were furnished by members of the Society.

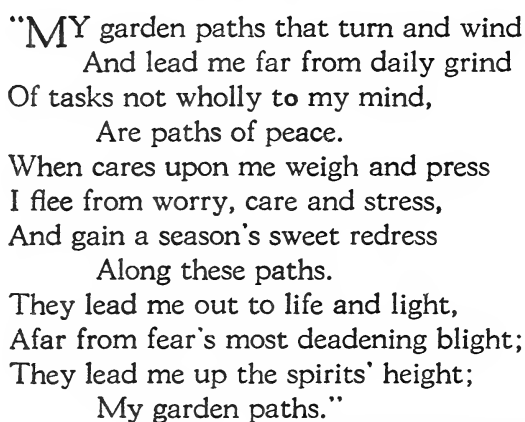
The display of Iris was very magnificent despite the two previous hot and windy days which were very trying on the fragile blooms. Mr. Simpson's new introduction "Arlington" was seen in good form and from the rows of four or five hundred plants nearby one could see what a splendid mass planting it made. There were other note-worthy seedlings, particularly an unusual red one, (Andalusia), which attracted everyone's favorable comment. A Parc de Neuilly seedling was conspicuous because of its fine blue coloring and its splendid height and vigor. Several plicatas were superior in height and number of blooms on a stalk to anything now in the trade. The unusual number of blooms in the garden was surprising, especially so when one considers that we had several late frosts that made a good many varieties come blind.

Refreshments were served under the shade of the historical Virginia trees and after a most delightful afternoon the Society and friends returned to Washington City.

J. M. R. Adams.

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"MY garden paths that turn and wind  
And lead me far from daily grind  
Of tasks not wholly to my mind,  
Are paths of peace.  
When cares upon me weigh and press  
I flee from worry, care and stress,  
And gain a season's sweet redress  
Along these paths.  
They lead me out to life and light,  
Afar from fear's most deadening blight;  
They lead me up the spirits' height;  
My garden paths."

—Edith Porter Kimball